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HOWARD BENJAMIN

February 19, 2014

**VIA FACSIMILIE (212) 805-6111**

Honorable Henry B. Pittman  
United States Courthouse  
500 Pearl Street  
Courtroom 18A  
New York, New York 10007-1312

**RE: Sea Trade Maritime Corporation v. Stelios Coutsodontis, et. al**  
**Case No. 09 CV488**

Dear Magistrate Pittman:

I am writing on behalf of the plaintiffs in the above matter to request a conference with respect to discovery issues.

On September 13, 2013 Your Honor issued a Scheduling Order which was to be completed by March 13, 2014. I efiled Notice of Deposition to take the depositions of defendants Stelios Coutsodontis on February 25, 2014; Francesa Eleni Coutsodontis; on February 27, 2014 and Nikolaos A. Kotakis of defendant General Maritime Enterprises Corp., on March 3, 2014.

I have since been advised by the respective attorneys for the above names that for a number of reasons those individuals will not appear on those dates. It is obvious that the March 13, 2014 deadline will not be met, and as such, I respectfully request that Your Honor schedule a conference to discuss the issues.

HOWARD BENJAMIN

Honorable Henry B. Pittman

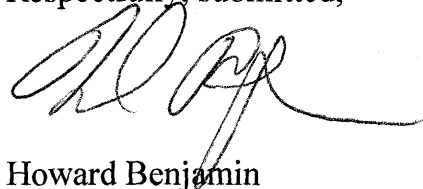
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I believe that absent an Order with specific dates for the depositions (including for my client, George Peters), the defendants will not voluntarily appear for deposition.

In fact, I face a similar situation in a State Court case in which Stelios Coutsodontis is the defendant and George Peters is the plaintiff, but that is not the concern of this Court.

Respectfully, submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'HB', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Howard Benjamin

HB/hw

cc: Patrick R. O'Mea, Esq.  
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